

**Mission Bay Landfill  
Technical Advisory Committee  
CAB, 12th Floor Conf. Room B  
October 14, 2004  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

TAC Members Present

Donna Frye	Jeoffry Gordon	Barry Pulver	Judy Swink	Robert Curtis
Frank Gormlie	Rebecca Lafreniere	Dave Huntley	Brian McDaniel	Robert Tukey

Alternate TAC Members Present

Kathleen Blavatt

TAC Members Absent

Bruce Reznik	John Wilks
Ben Leaf	David Kennedy

Interested Parties/Alternates

Ellen Lirley	Melanie Johnson	Glenn Gentile	Bert Decker
Jace Miller	Marc Snelling	Jim McCann	

Staff

Steven Fontana	Sylvia Castillo	Adam Wexler	Keith Greer
Ray Purtee	John Lamb	Mika Shimada-Cicirelli	

The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Frye. Self introductions were made.

Review of September meeting minutes was trailed to later in the agenda until a quorum was present.

As a follow up to the previous TAC meeting, Councilmember Frye passed out a letter from her office to the California Coastal Commission notifying them of discrepancies in estimated quantities of liquid industrial wastes disposed of at the landfill.

## **Approval of Minutes**

As a quorum was now present, the September meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with the following two changes: the last sentence of Page 1 is revised to read “Soil lab results did not raise any red flags though the east borings have not been completed yet” and on page 2, under the heading Status of Site Assessment, the second paragraph is revised to read “The eastern most groundwater well near I-5 referred to earlier by Barry was moved to a location near the boat launch basin based on subcommittee meeting discussions.”

## **Status of Site Assessment**

Tessa McRae explained that the City’s existing groundwater monitoring wells had dedicated pumps which had to be removed for two major activities of the site assessment: 1. to perform the tidal survey and, 2. to conduct a salinity profile. The tidal survey monitor is a cylindrical stainless steel probe containing a pressure transducer that’s hung by cable at a set depth within the well. At ten minute intervals water temperature and level is recorded and this data can be downloaded from the top of the well casing. From this data tidal influence on groundwater flow and direction can be learned. The start of this survey was delayed to last week to synchronize it with pronounced cyclical tides. Possibly, some data will be available for discussion at the next TAC meeting. From the salinity profile we can learn how salinity varies with depth as the site has fresh water flowing down from the San Diego River and brackish water in the bay.

The last of the assessment borings will be completed today in the Eastern portion of the landfill. A picture of the track mounted push/pull rig was passed around.

The risk assessment has begun on data compiled to date, but cannot be completed until the well data is available. All final lab data is expected by the middle of December. A first draft report should be ready in February.

Questions asked included “When will groundwater sampling begin”? and “Without having rain for 180 days, would rain after this time influence groundwater samples?” Tessa answered that sampling would probably begin the second week of November. Heavy rain could percolate through the sandy soil and influence the wells, so SCS will study any correlation of historical rainfalls with sampling results. Special low level metals analysis will be performed on the groundwater samples and compared to the City’s sampling results.

Councilmember Frye stated that if the group desires, they could have the City and/or RWQCB give a review of the City’s groundwater monitoring program results.

## **Multiple Species Conservation Plan**

Keith Greer, Deputy Planning Department Director, spoke on Mission Bay’s role in the Multiple Species Conservation Plan. He requested the TAC’s approval on removal of exotic plants from the East area of the landfill. Ice plant in this area is destroying the native plant “Nuttall’s Lotus.” A hand out was distributed with pictures and information on Nuttall’s Lotus. The proposed method to remove the ice plant is to physically pull it up with its roots and haul it away. Keith requested the assistance of ESD in the form of a dump truck and waiving tipping fees at the landfill. They would start on this removal toward the end of December after all site assessment field work is completed.

Judy Swink suggested that Keith inform Div Brasted of the Park and Recreation Department and also make this presentation to the Mission Bay Park Committee (MBPC).  
A motion was made, seconded and approved for the ice plant removal without use of herbicides.

### **Public Comment**

The City's recent response letters to the RWQCB and OEHHA comments to the draft site assessment work plan were discussed, and concerns included that the date of these agencies' letters was May, 2004, and why only now are they being shared with the group? If these letters had been distributed when they were received by the City, the group would have had more time to discuss them and evaluate any response. Also, what specific issue about the health risk assessment did the author of the OEHHA letter have in mind? Someone should have called the author of the OEHHA letter, Mr. Salocks, to ask him this question. Didn't the work plan include the precautionary principle as well as risk assessment language? Did SCS review these letters and evaluate recommended test methods?

Rebecca Lafreniere (LEA) stated that the initial draft work plan that OEHHA would have reviewed did not yet include precautionary principle language. She will send OEHHA the latest draft of the work plan.

Ray Purtee stated that SCS did review both letters including the test methods that OEHHA discussed in their letter. The City's response letter is primarily composed of SCS's response to the letters.

It was decided that these two letters and any others unseen by the TAC would be put on next meeting's agenda for discussion.

A question was asked "When the site assessment report comes out in February will it then be reviewed by other agencies who will evaluate whether the site is safe for building on?" The answer was that since this assessment was not required by any agency, but rather in response to citizen's concerns, agencies may only review the report for completeness, scientific validity, and that assumptions made were correctly applied.

There was discussion on an action before the Coastal Commission for permitting construction of the Promenade along the South Shore's shoreline. This project went before the MBPC many months ago as well as the LEA. A final design incorporating the LEA's comments has not been seen yet by the LEA. John Lamb will get a copy of this application for review at the next TAC meeting.

### **Items for next agenda**

- Review of RWQCB and OEHHA letters and response
- Review of application to Coastal Commission for Promenade

### **Future Meetings**

- Friday, Nov 19, 2004, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, CAB, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room B